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digious! But presumably one is not supposed to *read* it, but only to *refer* to it. The selections which it contains are certainly excellent, taken from the best homiletical writers of our time. Of its kind, this series has no equal. For the preacher who depends wholly upon others for his thoughts and expressions and illustrations, nothing could be more convenient and useful than such volumes as these. They would form an economical library, too, for such a man; he would need scarce anything else—possibly not even a Bible. The effect of using such literature is to destroy any originality or individuality that a preacher may have. Of course if he has neither—but that is an impossible supposition. C. W. V.

The Kingdom of God: A plan of study in three parts, I. The Kingdom in Israel, II. The Kingdom in the Synoptic Sayings of Jesus, III. The Kingdom in Apostolic Times. Series of Bible Class Primers, edited by Professor Salmond. By Rev. F. H. STEAD, M.A. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1894. Pp. 78+78+94. Price, 60 cents.

This little book is the outgrowth of actual work with a Bible Class upon the theme treated. It is arranged with reference to coöperative study, for the use of Bible Study classes and guilds. Specific directions are given for both the private study and the general meetings. The great theme which runs through the whole Bible, binding all its parts together, is the KINGDOM OF GOD—its principles, its characteristics, its development, its consummation. To exhibit the Kingdom of God in these various aspects has been the task that Mr. Stead has set himself, and he has accomplished it in a bright, fresh, truthful way. Beginning with the foundation of the nation of Israel through Moses, he traces the course of the Kingdom through the Old Testament, finding it principally in the activities and teachings of the Prophets, who are made to appear as living characters and mighty preachers of God. The treatment is admirable. The author adopts the approved findings of present day biblical criticism, and shows in his pages the great gain which results therefrom. The post-exilic period and the inter-testament literature are briefly but effectively handled. It is Part II, naturally, the Kingdom as set forth in the Sayings of Jesus, that is the most vital portion of the work. The collection and classification of the Synoptic material bearing upon the Kingdom of God is skillfully and wisely done. The study of this theme is of the highest importance to every one, and our author is here a trustworthy and informing guide. Pages 63-78; which give a summary of the Synoptic teaching on this subject, are very valuable. The apostolic period, with its deeds and literature, receives a similar exposition. Much attention is given to the doctrinal and ethical teaching of Paul. Appendix I. gives a collection of opinions from the eminent men of the Christian Church upon the kingdom of God, and Appendix II, indicates the witness of imperial history to the kingdom. The book is an

introduction to Biblical Theology on its practical side, and is deserving of admiration, confidence, and use. It ought to be adopted by many teachers as a basis for the instruction of many Bible classes. Yet let the teacher not be too sure of his own ability to deal with the subject through Mr. Stead's presentation. There will certainly be much for both teacher and class to learn. But that is the kind of work to be undertaken if one has any desire for growth in character, knowledge, or grace.

C. W. V.

The Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. By HANDLEY C. G. MOULE, A.M., Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge. New York: A. C. Armstrong and Son. The Expositor's Bible. Price, \$1.50.

The writing of this commentary has been to the author a sacred task. He puts it before the world with the single remark that his mind is occupied only "with an ever deeper reverence and wonder over the text which he has been permitted to handle, a text so full of a marvelous man, above all so full of God." It is needless to say that the character of the commentary is in harmony with the profound reverence of this remark. The book is an exposition of the most profitable and delightful kind—an exposition, not by paragraphs, but a running commentary, phrase by phrase, and sometimes word by word, with a general division of the Epistle into well-marked sections, each with a distinctive caption. The style is charming, and the book reads like a connected sermon. The reader is carried along altogether unconsciously, wholly uninterrupted by the introduction of the phrases and sentences of the text, which fall into place as naturally and logically as the comment itself. The thought of the Apostle is clad in flesh and bones; it is made a living, moving progression of wonderful realities. No attention is paid by the author to critical questions. The whole purpose is to reproduce Paul, what he felt and thought while writing this incomparable epistle. And the purpose is vigorously accomplished. To be sure, to introduce the language of the text so unpretentiously into the commentary, the author has had to take some liberty in the wording of his translation; but in this he has been entirely justified because the translation has been made with special reference to the passage under discussion and entirely without consideration of the general style of the epistle.

The book, in fine, makes the impression of being the entirely natural expression of the thoughts and meditations of a profound and reverent student, as he pondered, word for word, the mind and teaching of the great apostle. Probably no greater compliment could be paid the author of an Expository Commentary.

C. E. W.

Untersuchung urgeschichtlicher Zeitverhältnisse der Genesis. Von DR. NETELER.

This pamphlet is an attempt by a Roman Catholic scholar to show that the chronology of Genesis is not incompatible with the data supplied by other Oriental authorities. The flood is dated 2896 B.C., after the figures in the